GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1733
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2002
SUPPLY OF MOSQUITO NETS
SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether DGoS placed two supply orders in April 1997 on two different firms for the supply of mosquito nets as per specifications at a total cost of Rs. 5.92 crore and the items were accepted after inspection of the Senior Quality Assurance Officer and the Ordnance Depot, Kolkata issued the entire quantity to 12 feeding depots for onward issue to the troops;

(b) whether some of the field ordnance depots reported of the non-acceptance of the nets due to variation in sizes and the same were found correct and in the process crores of rupees were lost;

(c) if so, whether matter has been enquired into and accountability and responsibility fixed for improper inspection of the mosquito nets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the official found guilty?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, subsequently mosquito nets valued at Rs. 1.80 crores were rejected by the consignee as they did not conform to specifications.

(c) & (d): Disciplinary proceedings have already been initiated against the concerned officers and staff responsible for the lapse. Criminal complaint is being filed against a Retired Army Officer, another Army officer has been awarded severe displeasure (recordable) under section 122 of Army Act, whereas third Army officer has been exonerated. Major penalty proceeding against 34 Civilian officers & staff have been initiated and case against one staff (NGO) has been finalized with imposition of major penalty.